DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 478 042 SO 035 007

TITLE The Alabama Constitution of 1901 Unit. Using Primary Sources

in the Classroom.

INSTITUTION Alabama Dept. of Archives and History, Montgomery.

PUB DATE 2001-07-12

NOTE 38p.; For other units in this series, see SO 035 002-011.

AVAILABLE FROM Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington

Ave., Montgomery, AL 36130-0100. Tel: 334-242-4435; e-mail:

dpendlet@archives.state.al.us; Web site:

http://www.archives.state.al.us/ .

PUB TYPE Guides - Classroom - Teacher (052)
EDRS PRICE EDRS Price MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS Curriculum Enrichment; History Instruction; \*Primary Sources;

Secondary Education; Social Studies; \*State History; Student

Educational Objectives; \*Student Research

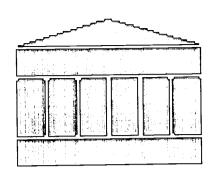
IDENTIFIERS \*Alabama; Constitutional Conventions; \*Constitutions;

Document Analysis

#### ABSTRACT

This teaching unit, "The Alabama Constitution of 1901 Unit," is the sixth in a series of 10 units about Alabama state history, part of a project designed to help teachers integrate the use of primary source materials into their classrooms. Although the units are designed to augment the study of Alabama, they are useful in the study of U.S. history, world history, and the social studies in general. Each unit contains background information for the teacher and consists of several lessons. Lessons contain learning objectives, suggested activities, and documents. This unit is divided into six sections: (1) "Introduction"; (2) "Lesson 1: A Map Can Tell a Story" (Map of Alabama; one primary source document); (3) "Lesson 2: Petticoat Power" (General Suggestions for Analyzing a Document; two primary source documents); (4) "Lesson 3: We Have...No Member...Who Can Speak" (two primary source documents); (5) "Lesson 4: An Opposite View" (one primary source document); and (6) "Lesson 5: Voting after the Constitution" (Synopsis of Voting Requirements; three primary source documents). (BT)







# **Using Primary Sources in the Classroom**

# The Alabama Constitution of 1901 Unit

Alabama Department of Archives & History 624 Washington Avenue Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0100
Phone: (334) 242-4435
E-Mail:dpendlet@archives.state.al.us

http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/cconst/index.html

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS

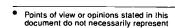
Updated July 12, 2001

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE** 

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement **EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION** 

CENTER (ERIC)
This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.





### **Project Description**

This project is designed to help teachers more easily integrate the use of primary source materials into their classrooms. It consists of teaching units on Alabama history organized in ten chronological/subject areas:

- Creek War, 1813-1814
- Settlement
- Slavery
- Civil War
- Reconstruction
- 1901 Constitution
- World War I
- Depression/New Deal
- World War II
- Civil Rights Movement

While these units cover some of the most critical and significant periods in Alabama history, the selected lessons are meant to be representative rather than comprehensive. These units were designed to augment the study of Alabama, yet they are useful in the study of the United States, the world, and the social studies in general. The documents can also be used to supplement the study of other curriculums.

Each unit contains background information for the teacher and is made up of several lessons. The lessons contain learning objectives, suggested activities, and documents. Documents are reproduced in the original form and transcribed when necessary. Primary source materials may be printed and reproduced for classroom use. Lessons can be used without modification, adapted for specific class use, or entire new lessons and activities may be created based on the primary source materials provided.

#### **Purpose of the Project**

The 1992 Alabama Social Studies Course of Studies emphasized the use of primary source documents to "enrich the social studies program and enable students to visualize and empathize with people of other times and places." These documents help students vividly understand the feelings and actions of Jeremiah Austill at the Canoe Fight of 1813, of riders on the first integrated buses in Montgomery at the conclusion of the famous bus boycott, of women nursing wounded Civil War soldiers, and of destitute Alabama families during the Depression. These documents enrich the study of Alabama history and the study of all civilizations.



The Alabama Department of Archives and History is the official repository for Alabama government documents and holds many of the most important books, documents, visual materials and artifacts that document the history of Alabama and the South. The purpose of this project is to bring those materials to students, and to organize them in such a way that teachers can easily utilize them in the classroom.



# **Table of Contents**

Introduction	]
Lesson 1: A Map can Tell a Story	3
Map of Alabama	5
Document 1: "Votes by Counties on the Question of Holding a Constitutional Convention and the Ratification of the Constitution," Alabama Department of Archives and History, Official and Statistical Register 1903 (Montgomery: Brown Printing Co., 1903)	6
Lesson 2: Petticoat Power	8
General Suggestions for Analyzing a Document	.0
Document 1: "Letter from Carrie Chapman Catt to Hon. Chas. H. Miller, 14 June 1901," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778,	1 1
Document 2: "Editorial Notes from The Woman's Journal," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778	
Lesson 3: We have No Member Who Can Speak	14
Document 1: "Letter from Booker T. Washington to Hon. John B. Knox, 23 May 1901," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778	16
Document 2: "To the Members of the Alabama Constitutional Convention," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778.	17
Lesson 4: An Opposite View	22
Document 1: John Milner, White Men of Alabama Stand Together, Pamphlet Collection - Subjects, LPR117	24
Lesson 5: Voting After the Constitution of 1901	26
Document 1: Life certificate of registration," Crommelin Family Papers,  LPR62	28



Synopsis of Voting Requirements from the Constitution of 1901	29
Document 2: "List of Registered Voters, Radfordville Precinct, Perry County, 1892," LG5494 folder 2	30
Document 3: "Poll List, Radfordville Precinct, Perry County, 1902," LG2313	32

This project is designed to help teachers more easily integrate the use of primary source materials into their classrooms. Each unit contains background information for the teacher and is made up of several lessons. The lessons contain learning objectives, suggested activities, and documents. Documents are reproduced in the original form and transcribed when necessary. Primary source materials may be printed and reproduced for classroom use. Lessons can be used without modification, adapted for specific class use, or entire new lessons and activities may be created based on the primary source materials provided.



# Using Primary Sources in the Classroom: The Alabama Constitution of 1901 Unit

#### Introduction to the 1901 Constitution\_Unit

As the 20th century dawned in Alabama, demands to redraw the basic framework of state government grew. The "Redeemer Constitution" of 1875 had effectively wrested political control from the coalition of Republican "scalawags" (native Republicans), "carpetbaggers" (Northern opportunists), and newly freed blacks who had briefly held power during Reconstruction. However, its limits on state support for commercial development through river improvement and railroad construction, and its low tax ceilings which kept schools poor increasingly drew criticism from reform-minded Alabamians.

Of greater importance to the politically powerful was the need to better control who voted in the state, a legacy of the tumultuous 1890s when the conservative Democrats were challenged by the Farmers' Alliance/Populist movement. The entrenched "Bourbons" had maintained control during that period through a combination of intimidating African Americans, raising the specter of "black rule" to keep whites within the party, and fraudulently counting votes for conservative candidates when all else failed. Uncomfortable with the turmoil and subterfuge of these campaigns, many leaders of the conservative Democrats embraced calls for a new constitution as a way to ensure "honest elections" -- by legally taking the vote away from blacks so that they would not have to be stolen.

Closely contested elections saw a convention assembled and a new Constitution adopted in 1901. Generally supported by the conservative "Bourbon" planters of the Black Belt counties and their allies in the rapidly industrializing Birmingham area, both the convention and the proposed Constitution had significant opposition from poor farmers and African Americans afraid of losing their already tenuous political identities. The resulting 1901 Constitution fulfilled their fears as a host of stringent suffrage restrictions effectively denied great numbers of both classes the right to vote.

Accurately described by present-day historians as "designed to freeze change in desirable channels," the 1901 Constitution [http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/intro/pg01.html] not only restricted suffrage but also did little to make government more responsive to the challenges of a new century. The 1901 Constitution was more a code of laws than a framework for government, as the Legislature retained near complete control over local affairs, making necessary hundreds of amendments over the succeeding decades.



#### For more information see:

Alabama Moments in American History: Alabama's 1901 Constitution http://www.alabamamoments.state.al.us/sec37.html



## Lesson 1: A Map Can Tell a Story

#### 1. Background information for teachers:

Both the vote to hold a convention and the vote to ratify the resulting constitution in 1901 were hotly contested, revealing sectional cleavages familiar in Alabama's history. The need for a new constitution to replace the 1875 "Redeemer Constitution" was sought by Alabamians with a variety of reform agendas, but the major issue came down to denying the vote to blacks in an effort to promote "honest elections."

In the vote to assemble a convention, the proponents drew their strength from the plantation Black Belt counties, garnering 61 percent of the statewide vote. Opposition was centered in the north Alabama hill country and the southeastern Wiregrass region where white small farmers feared losing their right to vote in the proposed "reform" constitution. Once the new constitution was promulgated and put to a vote, the opposition increased so that the 1901 Constitution garnered only 57 percent of the statewide vote.

Again, the Black Belt counties -- home to most black Alabamians -- provided the margin of victory since a majority of votes in the rest of the state disapproved the new constitution. In ten of these Black Belt counties, more votes were cast in favor of ratification than there were registered voters -- reprising the accusations of vote fraud that had led to the demand for a new constitution in the first place.

#### 2. Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this lesson, students should be able to:

- 1. Identify various counties in Alabama.
- 2. Recognize voting patterns.
- 3. Discuss a possible link between the geographic areas of Alabama and political opinion.

#### 3. Suggested Activities:

1. Provide students with two\_blank maps of Alabama (attached and at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/blankmap.gif) and two different colors of crayons or colored pencils and a copy of Document 1.

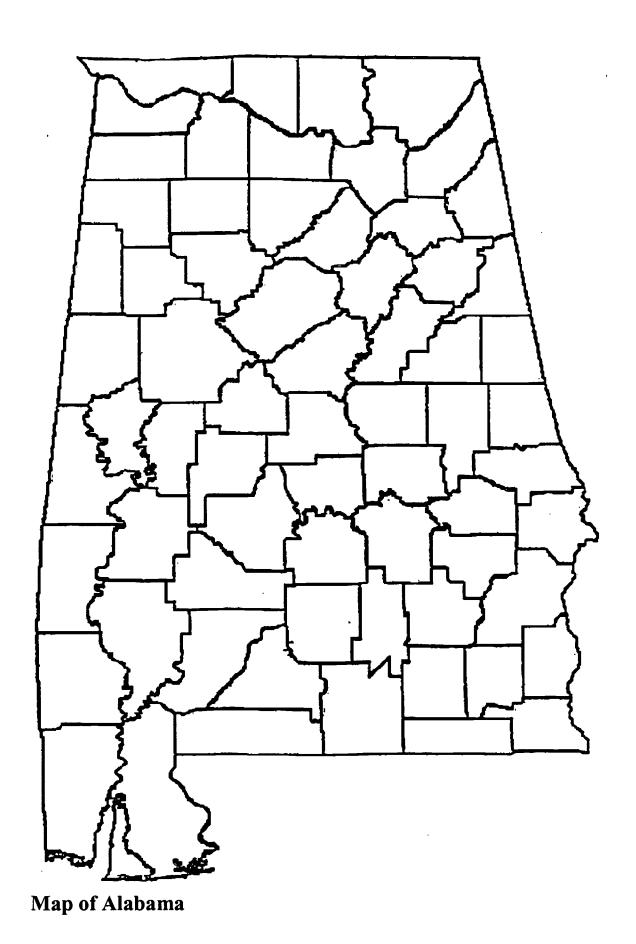


- 2. Ask the students to label each map as follows:
  - Map A. Should a Constitutional Convention be Held? (April 23, 1901) Map B. Ratification of the Constitution (November 11, 1901)
- 3. Using one color ask the students to shade in the counties that supported the convention on map A.
- 4. Using the same color, ask the students to shade in the counties that supported the constitution on map B.
- 5. Using the second color, ask the students to shade in the counties that were against the convention on map A.
- 6. Using the second color, again, ask the students to shade in the counties that did not support the constitution on map B.
- 7. Allow students to point out the similarities and differences in the maps.
- 8. Use a map of the geographic divisions of the state. Are there patterns that can be noticed? How did the Black Belt vote? How did the northern portions of Alabama vote?
- 9. What conclusions or ideas can be drawn about the population of Alabama and the support of the constitution?
- 10. Allow the students to locate their county and discuss the opinions of their home areas.

#### Document 1:

"Votes by Counties on the Question of Holding a Constitutional Convention and the Ratification of the Constitution," Alabama Department of Archives and History, Official and Statistical Register 1903 (Montgomery: Brown Printing Co., 1903).







VOTES BY COUNTIES ON THE QUESTION OF HOLDING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, AND OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

	Electi April 2	ion, 3, 1901.	Electi Nov. 11,	
NAMES OF COUNTIES.	For Convention.	Against Convention.	For Constitution.	Constitution. Against
Autauga Baldwin Barbour Bibb Blount Bullock Butler Calhoun Chambers Cherokee Chilton Choctaw Clarke Clay Cleburne Coffee Colbert Conecuh Coosa	512 302 1,361 719 912 371 950 949 3,194 340 361 498 531 883 225 311 1,175 660 854	68 553 347 565 1,266 1,266 1,099 760 498 1,186 1,239 349 247 1,239 349 247 1,204 203 868 713 1,142 1,135	905 508 2,905 1,210 795 962 1,058 2,546 4,604 508 862 1,448 683 1,459 778 2,011 834 948	920 414 1,121 1,044 1,692 560 1,705 1,929 553 1,442 1,664 983 444 1,709 740 833 748 1,174 1,355
Covington	662 735 540 574	426 743 1,452 1,040	698( 1,249) 544( 758)	1,023 835 1,764 1,710

Document 1: "Votes by Counties on the Question of Holding a Constitutional Convention and the Ratification of the Constitution," Alabama Department of Archives and History, Official and Statistical Register 1903 (Montgomery: Brown Printing Co., 1903), page 1.



•	ł		ı ı	-
Dallas	5,668	200	8,126	235
DeKalb	785	1.357	812	1,572
Elmore	1,147	1,480	1,757	543
Escambia	357	166	703	450
Etowah.	929	1,118	1,189	2,141
Fayette	427	856	542	1,031
Franklin	464	975	528	1,245
Geneva	370	820	527	1,034
Greene.	1,4/9	19	1,077	101
Hale	2,318	66	4,698	95
Henry	1,029	786	1,882	1,590
Jackson.	942	1.223	633	2,893
Jefferson	1,913	1,893	8.088	6,160
Lamar	436	248	677	678
Lauderdale	1.050	1,229	1,125	2,046
Lawrence	1,144	507	1,229	872
Lee	1,487	547	1,174	2,871
Limestone	1,394	1,213	2,243	
Lowndes	3,226	338	1,390	1,642
	872	299	1,073	190
	2,551	1,521	4,255	2,244
Madison	2,197	241	1,958	341
Manage Parkers	627	751	515	1,411
Marion	286	1,021	401	2,217
Marshall	v96	378		
Mobile	429	166	1.862	1,867 442
Monroe.		233	1,039	
Montgomery	1,137	652	4,285	1,224
Morgan	1,254 2,295	43	1,066) 3,209	2,429
Perry		209		88
Pickens	241		869	417
Pike	1,121	958	1,627	1,185
Randolph	740	114	1,365	1,804
Russell	807	.66	1,865	649
Shetby	660	1,106	587	2,293
St. Clair	429	1,261	387	1,572
Sumter	1,440	69.	2,930	168
Talladega	1,892	640	2,693	1,371
Tallapoosa	2,063	1,360	1,808	2,685
Tuscaloosa	848	569	1,354	1,122
Walker	1,599	1,27,6	1,426	1,387
Washington	373	80)	480	512
Wilcox	1,689[	25	4,652	178
Winston	375	.684.	346	793
Ţ	70,305	45,505	108,613	81,734
Total vote	115,		190,8	47
Majority	24,	800	26,8	179
		<u></u>		

Document 1: "Votes by Counties on the Question of Holding a Constitutional Convention and the Ratification of the Constitution," Alabama Department of Archives and History, Official and Statistical Register 1903 (Montgomery: Brown Printing Co., 1903), page 2.



#### Lesson 2: Petticoat Power!

#### 1. Background information for teachers:

While the Constitutional Convention of 1901 debated how best to restrict suffrage among adult males, a group of Alabama women in the Huntsville area petitioned the delegates to grant adult females the right to vote. Although largely a national movement, a state women's suffrage club had been increasingly active since its 1892 formation. Supported by literature and a petition from Elizabeth Cady Stanton's and Susan B. Anthony's National American Woman Suffrage Association, the president of the Alabama auxiliary was allowed to address the 1901 Convention.

A subsequent vote on including a women's suffrage provision failed passage by a four-toone margin. The fact that four states in the U.S. allowed women equal voting rights as men swayed few delegates, most of whom accepted the prevailing notion about politics being unsuited for women. Not a few probably agreed with the sentiments of delegate (and future U.S. Senator) Tom Heflin that the whole idea was the work of "a few cranks strolling over the state."

With the defeat of their suffrage proposal in 1901, the women's suffrage club died. It would be reborn in 1910, but with little success over the next decade. Alabama women gained the right to vote only in 1920 when the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified by the requisite three-fourths of the states (not including Alabama).

#### 2. Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this lesson, students should be able to:

- 1. Identify some of the women who were prominent in the women's suffrage movement.
- 2. Define an editorial and discuss its purpose.
- 3. Synthesize a letter of response using historical background.

#### 3. Suggested Activities:

1. Provide a copy of Document 1, the letter from Carrie Chapman Catt, and Document 2, the editorial comments from "The Woman's Journal" publication to each student.



- 2. Ask the students to use the general suggestions for analyzing a written document while studying the letter.
- 3. Ask students the following questions:
  - a. Do you recognize any of the names on the letterhead of the letter?
  - b. Describe the roles of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Carrie Chapman Catt in the national women's suffrage movement.
  - c. Read the editorial column found in "The Woman's Journal" publication. What is the purpose of an editorial? Do you agree or disagree with the points that the editor made? Why?
  - d. The property of a wife could be used to determine a man's eligibility to vote in the Alabama Constitution of 1901. Do you believe this to be fair? Why or why not?
- 4. Ask the students to write a letter of response to Carrie Chapman Catt's letter as if they were the governor.

#### Documents:

**Document 1:** "Letter from Carrie Chapman Catt to Hon. Chas. H. Miller, 14 June 1901," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Attached and at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/lesson2/doc1.html

**Document 2:** "Editorial Notes from The Woman's Journal," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Attached and on the web at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/lesson3/doc2.html



# General Suggestions for Analyzing a Written Document

- 1. Describe the document. Is this a letter, a will, a bill of sale or some other kind of document?
- 2. What is the date of the document? Is there more than one date? Why?
- 3. Who is the author of the document? Is this person of historical significance? Do you believe that the author of this document is credible? Is this document written as a requirement of the author's occupation or is this a personal document?
- 4. For what audience was this document written?
- 5. List or underline three (3) points that the author made that you believe are important.
- 6. Why do you think that the author wrote this document? Use quotes from the document to support your position.
- 7. List two (2) things from the document that describes life in the United States or in Alabama.
- 8. Write one (1) question to the author that is unanswered by the document.



# National American Woman Sulfrage Association.

MEMBES NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WORRS.

Honorary Prendent, Rifficure Care Stateout, of West 61st Street, New York, Honorary Prendent, Sunar B. Astricost, 17 Median Street, Rochester, N. V.

President, Carrie Charman Carr,
and American Trace Society Building, New York.
Wise Bresident and James Born, American Boulding, New York.

Vien-Providentati.orge, Rev. Arra R. Suzw., Philadelphia, Pa. Corresponding Socretary, Racant. Postua Avzzv. Philadelphia, Pa. Philadelphia, Pa.

ecording Secretary, Augs Stone Blackwall, 3 Park Street, Beston, Mass. Treasurer, Hannier Tatuus Urtus, Warren, Obio.

Auditors | LAURA CLAY, Lexington, Ky,
CAYMARINE WARDER MCC, WILLOCK,
The Rosbery, Chicago, E

NATIONAL MEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, N. Y

June 14, 1901.

Hon. Joel D. Murphree,
Montgomery, Ala.

Dear Sir:-

Your Constitutional Convention will undoubtedly amend the election laws of the State. In this connection, the National American Woman Suffrage Association invites your consideration of the just claim of the Alabama women to some share in the law-making power of the State. A Southern State, Kentucky, was the first in the Union to grant any form of suffrage to women. This it did in 1838 when it gave school suffrage to widows with children of school age. At this date, twenty-five States have extended to women some form of limited suffrage, and four have granted full suffrage on precisely the same qualifications as are required of male voters. We do not, therefore, ask your consideration of a new or untried proposition. Enclosed find sheet, called "Progress", which contains much information concerning the status of the movement and the successful operation of voman suffrage in practice.

With the hope that Alabama will join the list of States which stand for true Democracy, I am,

Yours truly,

(Enclosure)

leavie lehapman leatt.

Document 1: "Letter from Carrie Chapman Catt to Hon. Chas. H. Miller, 14 June 1901," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.



# THE WOLLDWA

BOSTON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1901.

#### The Woman's Journal

FOUNDED BY LUCY STONE.

Weekly Newspaper, published every Satur-in Boston, deveted to the interests of wo day in Boston, deveted to the interests of wo-man to her educational, industrial, legal and political equality, and especially to her right or

H. B. RY, ACREWELL.

PLOBENCE M. ADKINSON. CATHABINE WILDE:

ron Orrios—No. 3 Park Street, w SUBSCRIPTION.

Per Annum
Six Months
Six Months
Single copies
First year on trial
Three months on trial

Auron mounts on trial:

Checks and drafts and post-office orders should be made payable to the Wolkan's Journal. Let ters containing remittances should be addressed to the office of the Wokan's Journal, 2 Fark Street, Boston, Mass. Registered, etters or priess to be money orders may be sent at Our risk, Munory sont in letters not registered, will be at the risk of the sender.

R. B. Tonsen Business Agent

J. S. MORRISON, Business Manager Adv. Dept.

#### CONTENTS.

Effect of Woman Suffrage in New Zealand.... 258

| Ministal Matters. | 238 | Influence of a Bose Bush | 236 | Edilau Whiting on Elizabath Stoddard. | 230 | Strone Without Souls | 220 | Literary Notices. | 229 

BAST LONDON.

BY MATTREW ARXOLD.

Twas Angust, and the fleros enn overhead the squalid streets of Bethus Green,
And the pale weaver through his winde

In Spitsifields, looked thrice dispirited

I met a preacher there I know, and said, "Ill'and o'erworked, how fare you in shi

scene?":
"Rravely!" said he, "for I of late have been
Much cheered with thoughts of Christ, the
Hoing bread."

Bot the debate is interesting and significant as being the first roal discussion of the woman anfirage question ever made in State of Alebama. Meanwhile the thanks of all self-respecting women and men are due to the brave and generous members who have fought the opening battle of Twentieth Century civilization in the Constitutional Convention of their State. The temporary postponement of a good cause is only victory deferred.

'There is no longer any such distinction or division, as 'Eastern and Western' wom-en, "writes Lilian Whiting from Colorado to the Chicago Inter-Ocean, "We are all American women, united in a comprehen-sive community of interests—the interests of good citizenship, of contributing in the individual interest of each, to all that makes for education, temperance, the higher cuitnre, for moral, and spiritual development, and the broadening of every human interest. It is true that the Col orado women are somewhat in advance of us in the East, but they are very tolerant and gracious, and realize that although Colorado la far ahead of Massachusetts in certain respects—as in the political enfranchisement of women, for Instanco-Stone, or Mrs. Livermore, or Mrs. Howe or Alice Stone Blackwell, that this is true The star of empire, the star of the fines civilization the world has ever known, is shining over the 'Silver State,' this mounmin-crowned, heautiful Colorado."

A Woman Suffragn Day will be colehrated next Friday, Ang. 23, by the suf-fragists of New York, at the Silver Lake Assembly. Harriet May Mills, the State organizer, has called a meeting at 10 A. M. at Assembly Hall nn the grounds. This will be a symposium to which a number of prominent suffrage women will tako part, including several State presi-At 1 P. M. there will be held the dents. great meeting of the day, addressed by Susan B. Anthony, Rev. Anna Shaw, and

On Sept. 7, the suffragists have been in-vited by Eldred Hnbbard and the Roycrofters to hold a meeting in East Anron In addition to those named above, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton of Ohio, Rev. Anna Garlin Spencer of Rhode Island, Mrs. May Wright Sewall of Indiana, and others ere expected.

After the great suffrage meeting in Briffalo, Sept. 9 and 10, announced else-where, there will be a conference Sept. 11 and 12, and on Sept. 13 Mrs. Sewall and Mrs. Fannie Humphreys Gaffney are planning a large meeting in the interest of the Women's Connoil.

oman supprage debated in Alabama

"The Fomale Taxparers of Alabama May Vote," "Mr. Craig Wins Victory in Convention," "Will be Red Letter Day," "Suffrage Open to Women in Special Elec-tions." Such ere the head-lines in the Montgomery Advertiser of Aug 9, which preface the following annoncement:

The sixty-sixth day of the Constitutions Convention, Aug. 8, will go down in his-tory as a red letter day because it was on this day that the Copvention took the first step towards woman suffrage in Alabama. Late yesterday afternoon Mr. Craig, of Dollas, who has frequently an nonneed his views no the subject, enc-ceeded in getting before the body an amendment providing that women tax-payers in Alabama may be allowed to vote in special elections called for the purpose of determining whether bonds shall be issued or debts incurred by political subdivisions of the State,

There were but fow persons in the gal lery and not a female figure was to be seen, but Mr. Fitts, of Tuscaloom, olo quently champloued the cause of the somen taxpayers of the State, and called for an aye and may vote. The Craig

Later an amendment by Mr. deGraffer rold, of Hale, was adopted. It restricts the voting capacity of women to those who own real estate to the value of \$500 and who live in the political embdivisio affected and are over \$1 years of age. Mr. Greer, of Calboun, made & forvid appeal

to the Convention not to make itself ridio ulous by distranchising the negro man ment was adopted amid the greatest ap-

In another column the following details re given:

OHESTION OF WORLN STEPRAGE.

Mr. Craig, of Dallas, sent up an amen ment providing that women taxpayers shall vote on the question of bond issues and fixing taxes, and addressed the Con-vention. He declared that in property matters women had the same rights as men. He showed as an example a Montgomery woman who came near losing her property hecause of an increased property mx. She had no one to vote for her.

Mr. Pitts. of Tuscaloom, spoke in sup-port of the Craig amendment. He admit ted there is a strong prejudice in Alabams against women voting, but common and oven-handed justice demanded that wom en should have a right to vote when the property of women was to be voted away.

Mr. Boone, of Mobile, moved the pre-

vious question and it was ordered. O'Neal, of Lauderdale, moved to table the Crair amendment.

A call for the eyes and nays by Mr. Fitts was sustained.

taxpayers must live in the city or town affected; she shall own \$500 worth of real estate, and shall not be under 2 years old before she can vote on bond issues or incurring obligations. This

amendment was accepted by Judge Cobb.
Mr. Greer, of Calboun, spoke against the whole proposition. He said the Convention was travelling too fast and was making itself ridiculous. No restrictions had been placed upon it. Negro men had been disfranchised and their wives had been outranchised. If this thing must be done, he eppealed to the Convention to do it in order. If women were to be allowed to vote, it should be restricted to white women, numarried women, and women who resided in the locality to be affected:

Mr. Greer concluded his remarks by moving to adjourn, but the Convention refused to adjourn by a vote of 41 to 40. "I Judge Coleman them discussed the proposed amendments. He said he had been opposed to woman suffrage, but was will-ing to bow to the will of the Convention, but he boped the delegates would dater action over night to give them time to hetter consider it.

By a vice voce vote of 58 to 80, the deGraffenreid amendment was adopted.

At 6.50 o clock the Convention, on motion of General Sanfard, of Montgomery, adjourned until 9 o'clock next

morning.
The Montgomery Advertiser of Aug. 9 commonts editorially as follows: "TAX PAYING WOMEN AS VOTERS."

"In the discussion and settlement of the Suffrage Report by the Constitutional Convention, it refused to allow women the right to vote on an equal footing with

"Yesterday afternoon, however, the Convention, after an animated discussion, inserted an amendment in the Municipal Article giving a certain class of women

the right to vote to a limited extent.
"The amendment permits women v are property holders to vote on questions of issning municipal bonds or of incurring ohligations. Only those women who can comply with the male suffrage qualifica-tions as to age, good character, educational and property requisites, are admitted to the exercise of suffrage, even on these

questions.
"A provision of this kind seems to be just and reasonable. In all our towns and cities there are many women who own considerable quantities of real estate and other property. They are large taxpay-ers, and are vitally interested in the amount of burdens to be laid upon their property and upon the disposition of the taxes they pay. It may be said that they namally have male relatives, who can voice their views at the ballot box. So they may have in many cities, but not in all. But those relatives have their own inter-



O human soul! as long as thou o Set up a mark of overtasting light
Abova the howling senses' ebb and flow,
To cheer thee, and to right thee if then ream,
Not with less toil then laborest through the night!

Thou mak's the k's the heaven thou hop'st indeed

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

At Montgomery, Aug. 8, woman suffrage got into the new Constitution of Alabama in a mndified form. It was coacted that no city could issue bonds without submit ting the question to voters. Amid great enthusiaem an nmendment was adopted allowing women who pay taxes on \$500 of real estate to vote at all bond elections. But next day, on a motion to reconsider, this wise and equitable action was re-versed, and the amendment was lust.

In the debate upon reconsideration, Aug. 9, fome aggregate the reconstruction of the grant and aggregate the measure. Among others, that of Hon. T. L. Long, of Walker, seems to have enjoyed an unwholesome presiminence. A correspondent asys: "He spoke as loud as he could acream, with the gestioniation of a ruffian. I have never heard anything less chivalric or more savage uttered in the presence of dignified men who have mothers, wives, and danghters."

. The privilege which it was proposed to confer upon women taxpayers was so limited in its scope that it would have been valuable chiefly, as a recognition that in the case of women as in that of men "taxation without representation is tyrany," the interesting ecremony.

Miss Wilde, our associate editor, is takng a vacation at West Thornton, N. H. Miss Turner is again at her post at No. 8

The Art Committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, through its first publication in the new century, has nted n concise report of what is be done by skilled women in certain defining lines of the fine and applied arts. A summary of its facts and suggestions will appear next week.

#### IN MEMORY OF A MEROINE:

At Southampton, on June 80, Lady Emma Crichton unveiled a handsome drinking fountain which has been erected as a memorial of the beroid stewardess of the Stella, Mrs. Mary Ann Rogers, who was drowned when the ill-fated steamer struck the Casquets two years ago. It will be remembered that Mrs. Rogers, seeing a lady passenger without a life bolt, handed her her own, and went down with the

The question of a memorial at South ampton was raised by Miss Frances Power Cobbe, and supported by Mrs., Annie J. Coboo, and supported by Mrs. Annier.

Bryans, North Oray, Kent, and substriptions flowed in readily. The fountain, which is designed in the old Norman style, has been erected on the Western Esplanade. Two hundred and fifty pounds, left over, have been invested with trustees for the benefit of the family of the deceased. The Mayor and Corporation were present, and, notwithstanding the heavy rain, a large concourse of spectators witnessed

As the roll-call proceeded Mr. Boone, of Mobile, voted "aye, aye, aye," in a loud

Mr. O'Neal, of Landerdale, made the point of order that Mr. Boone had vated three times

.The presiding officer, Dr. Cunningham

of Jefferson, amid applause, 'Instructed the clerk to count Mr. Boone one time. Mr. Greer, of Calboun, explained his vote by saying that he wished he could vote a thousand times to table the propo-

By a vote of 48 to 59 the Convention refused to table the amendment. The vote was received with applause.

By a viva voce vote of 65 to 49 the Craig

amendment allowing women taxpayers to vote on the question of levying taxes was then adopted. The appouncement of the result of the vote was received with wild applause, and for a few minntes the Con-vention was thrown into disorder.

Mr. Boons, of Mobile, moved that the

nended amendment be adopted and called for the aves and nava.

The call was sustained, and by a vote of 65 to 40 the amended amendment was

Judge Coleman, of Greene, and Mr. of Calhoun, gave notice that they would move to reconsider.

RESTRICTIONS UPON WOMEN. Judge Cobb, of Macon, sont np an mendment as an independent Section

that women taxpayers may vote on elec tions held to determine the insuance of tions need to determine the instance of bonds, providing that they possess the educational, property, and good character qualifications contained in the Article on Suffrage.
Mr. deGraffenreid, of Hale, offered an

ests to represent; they cannot cast but their one vote each. The woman's prop-erty, at last, is really volceless in the setent of bardens to be put apon it, if she is kept from the polls.

""It may be said that few of these wom-en will vots, if permitted. That is true of many men, and is not an effective argu-If the female property owner given a voice in taxing her property, and chooses not to exercise it, that is ber

"This provision is similar to one in the new Louisiana Constitution, which is as

follows:

Upon all questions submitted to the
taxpayers, as such, of any municipal or
other political sub-divisions of this State,
the qualifications of such taxpayers as
voters shall be those of age and residence
prescribed by this article, and women
taxpayers shall have the right to vote at all such elections, without registration, in
person or by their agents authorized in
writing; but all other persons voting at
such elections shall be registered voters,
"This inversity the women's agents to

"This permits the women's agents to vote for tham on tax matters, going far-

ther than the Alabama proposition.
"The matter is to be brought up for reconsideration this morning, but the vote yesterday was decisive 65 to 49. It is not likely that there will be change of enough votes to wipe out the amend-

A fuller seconnt of the proce the 8th and 9th insta, will be found on page 261.

G. P. Pntnam's Sons, New York, an-nounce for September, "Mrs. Green," hy Evelyna Eloye Rynd; "A Crasy Angel," by Annette Lucile Noble; "Royal Regues," by Alberta Haserett: "Lights of Child-

Document 2: "Editorial Notes from The Woman's Journal," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.



## Lesson 3: "We have...no member...who can speak"

#### 1. Background information for teachers:

Black Alabamians knew full well that the state Constitution was being redrawn in 1901 largely to restrict voting to "the intelligent and the virtuous." Among the four separate petitions addressed to the constitutional convention from black citizens was one forwarded with a cover letter by Booker T. Washington, perhaps the most renowned African American in the country. True to his oft-repeated message, the Tuskegee Institute founder/principal asked the convention delegates to recognize the economic value of black labor and to provide political compensation. This and the other softly worded pleas for a continuing voice in the political process for black Alabamians were ignored in the end.

#### 2. Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this lesson, students should be able to:

- 1. Identify the concerns of the black voters of Alabama in 1901.
- 2. Analyze an historic document.
- 3. Discuss the predictions made by Washington concerning the changes which were proposed affecting the black community.

#### 3. Suggested Activities:

- 1. Provide the students with copies of Document 1 and Document 2.
- 2. Allow the students to read both documents.
- 3. Upon completion, using the overhead projector or blackboard, ask the students to compile a list of requests from the African American population.
- 4. Read aloud the last paragraph of the address:

"Any law which will merely change the name and form of fraud, or can be interpreted as meaning one thing when applied to one race and something else when applied to another race, will not in our opinion improve our



- present condition, but may unsettle the peace and thrift of our people and decrease the wealth and prosperity of Alabama."
- 5. Ask the students explain what Washington is trying to say to the legislators by writing this statement in their own words.

#### Documents:

**Document 1**: "Letter from Booker T. Washington to Hon. John B. Knox, 23 May 1901," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Attached and at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/lesson3/doc1.html

**Document 2:** "To the Members of the Alabama Constitutional Convention," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Attached and at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/lesson3/doc2.html



BOOKKET, WASHINGTON, Principle,

#### TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.

HARRINGHARRITHUL.

FOR THE TRAINING OF YOUNG COLORED MEN AND WOMEN.

COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENT OF ENDOWNENT FUND.

Ma. WM. II. DALDWIN, ID., President Long Jacand Hastroid, ID Broadway, New York Chy, Ma. J. C., PHIRLES AVINKS, Ay Desiar Rt., New York City.

Tuskeyee, Ala., May 23, 1901.

Hon. John B. Knox, President,

Alabama State Constitutional Convention,

Montgomery, Ala.

Dear Sir: -

€

I have been appointed chairman of a committee composed of Memra.

W. H. Council, Henry A. Loveless, Wm. Watkins, W. R. Pettiford, Chas. O.

Boothe and Dr. S. S. H. Washington, to present the enclosed address
representing the feelings and wishes of the colored people of the State
of Alabama to your Convention, and I very much hope that you can see your
way clear to have it read to the Convention and to make whatever other,
disposition of it you think proper.

Yours truly,

proper r. Washgiri.

Document 1: "Letter from Booker T. Washington to Hon. John B. Knox, 23 May 1901," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

ERIC

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

To the Members of the Constitutional Convention: -

Since it is true that our race numbers in this state about 800,000 and there is no member of thereoe a member of your body, who can speak directly for us in an official capacity, we do not think that you will misunderstand the object and spirit of this communication, for it is not sent to you in a dictatorial, fault-finding spirit, but with an earnest desire to be of some assistance in the performance of a grave and perplexing task. We make ourselves all the more bold to send you this communication because members of your body in nearly every part of the state have expressed a desire to hear from us.

It could not be expected that the 800,000 colored people in this state would not have some interest in the deliberations of a body that is to frame the fundamental law under which both races are to be governed in this state, perhaps for all future time.

Your petitioners are not stirrers up of strife between the races, but we feel that the questions with which you are to deal are above and beyond party politics. Each of us, insome calling, is a hard working, tax paying, and we trust, law abiding citizen, and we believe that we represent in a large measure the feelings and desires of the masses of our people in the state.

We beg to your honorable body to keep in mind in dealing with the problems that grow out of our presence that, as a race, we did not force ourselves upon you, but were brought here in most cases against our will; but nevertheless, we recognize that since being here, we have been vastly benefitted. We have gotten habits of industry, the English language, and the Christian religion, and at the same time, we have tried in an humble

Document 2: "To the Members of the Alabama Constitutional Convention," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama, page 1



way, to render valuable service to the white man in clearing the forests, building the railroads, cultivating the lands, working the mines, as well as in many forms of domestic service and in other activities. Our fathers and mothers have helped nurse you and your children, and when the male members of the family were away from home fighting in war that might have meant our continued enslavement, we remained at home, working your farms, supporting and protecting your helpless wives and daughters. When we have been called to perform any duty of citizenship, whether fighting a foreign foe, working the public roads, or any other duty, we have tried to do our best.

We beg of you to bear in mind that for more than twenty years the Negro in this state has not, as a rule, been a disturbing or offensive element. Immediately after the war, we made mistakes just as would have been true of any people placed in the same position, but we have learned our lesson from those mistakes and they are not likely to be repeated.

The changes wrought by time and the Providence of God, it seems to us, place your body in a particularly responsible position. You assemble at a time when your actions will not be directed or restricted by any pressure from the Federal government or elsewhere. The North is almost unanimous in its agreement that the future of the Negro in a large degree rests with the South. Almost for the first time since freedom came to us, a law-making body assembles in the South, bearing the supreme law-making power of the state, and is left free to act entirely untrammeled by outside influences. Almost for the first time, the Wegro is to rest his future in a large degree upon the conscience and intelligence of a great law-making body of a great Southern state. You have the power. The world will watch while you act.

It requires little thought, effort or strength to degrade and pull down a weak race, but it is the sign of great statesmanship to encourage

Document 2: "To the Members of the Alabama Constitutional Convention," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama, page 2.



and lift up a weak and unfortunate race. Destruction is easy; construction is difficult.

There are these among your petitioners who have persistently urged the Negro to learn to trust his future with his Southern white neighbor and that when the supreme test came he would receive justice at his hands. This is a crucial hour for those who have thus advised our race, but we do not believe that our faith in you will be misplaced. We believe that the possession of great power will deepen your sympathy for the weak and dependent elements of our population.

It seems to us on the whole, that the relations of the two races in this state are reasonably satisfactory, and we tremble and foar lest something will be done to disturb these relations and to bring discouragement and demoralization to our race.

Of the greatest importance is the economic consideration. The greater portion of our people are settled upon the plantations in the cotton raising districts, while a large number of others is in the mining districts. These people are occupying and cultivating land that is largely owned by white people or operating other industries owned by white people. Still others are buying homes and thereby contributing to the welfare of the state. In most cases, they are a contented, producing, law-abiding people. Already, alarm is beginning to spread among them and their fears are being worked upon by emigration agents and exodus associations who are telling them that under the new constitution the Virtually blotted out. These agencies expect in one way or another to reap gain by reason of semething that you will do in your convention.

Anything that will unsettle and cause excitement of people at the present time when, more than ever, in all parts of the state, the race is beginning to improve, to settle down to habits of thrift, economy and

Document 2: "To the Members of the Alabama Constitutional Convention," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama, page 3.



Ď

common sense, will not only prove injurious to our race, but to yours also. The history of all races proves that a contented intelligent friendly working class is the greatest possession of any state.

The Negro youth must have some incentive for right and useful living held out to him. Let the Negro youth feel that no matter how intelligent or useful he makes himself, that there is no hope of reward held out before him, and there will be danger that he will become a beast, revelling in orime and a body of death about the neck of the state. In a thousand ways, the ignorant, shiftless, criminal Negro will retard the progress of the white race.

The Megro is not seeking to rule the white man. In this state the Megro holds not a single elective office. Whenever he votes, he usually votes for some white man and is learning more and more to vote for the best white man. There is in the last analysis a feeling of tenderness, good will and sympathy existing between the two races in this state, which the outside world can hardly understand or appreciate. We pray that this relation may not be disturbed.

The Negro does ask, however, that since he is taxed, works the roads, is punished for crime, is called upon to defend his country, that he have some humble share in choosing those who shall rule over him, especially when he has proven his worthiness by becoming a taxpayer and a worthy reliable citizen. While the amount of direct taxes paid by the Negro is small, all will acknowledge that he is a large factor in enabling some one else to pay taxes; for the Negro who rests a farm or a house not only pays the rent, but indirectly, the taxes also.

We rejoice in that we have reached a period in our development, when we can speak in frank but friendly terms of the objects of your convention, the chief aim of which is, we trust, the wise and just government of all the people of Alabama. In this high purpose, your petitioners

Document 2: "To the Members of the Alabama Constitutional Convention," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama, page 4.



agree and sympathize with you. We are all owners of property and tax payers and have the same interest in good government that you have. We know that the task before you is a delicate, trying and perplexing one. In this connection, we desire to add that, in our humble opinion, while there may be doubt and uncertainty in many directions, one thing is absolutely and unmistakably clear, -- that nothing that is not absolutely just and fair, will be permanently successful.

Any law which will merely change the name and form of fraud, or can be interpreted as meaning one thing when applied to one race and something else when applied to another race, will not in our opinion improve our present condition, but may unsettle the peace and thrift of our people and decrease the wealth and prosperity of Alabama.

While you deliberate and act, be assured that you will have the prayers and good wishes of thousands of black people in every part of our state.

Respectfully submitted, .

#### (Signed)

Chas. O. Boothe,

D. H. Tulane,

Elijah Cook, .

John L. Thomas,

Booker T. Washington,

M. H. Adams,

Moses Davis,

H. J. A. Loveless,

A. J. Wilborn,

A. J. Wood.

J. W. Adams,

Jno. N. Brown,

R. E. Lee,

Ad. Wimbs,

S. S. H. Washington, M. D.,

C. F. Steers, Sr.,

Wm. Watking,

Henry Todd,

S. Ross,

R. H. Herron,

W. R. Pettiford,

W. H. Council.

R. B. Hudson,

Alfred C. Dungee, M. D.

Document 2: "To the Members of the Alabama Constitutional Convention," Alabama Secretary of State Constitutional Convention Proceedings, SG17778, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama, page 5.



# Lesson 4: An Opposite View

#### 1. Background information for teachers:

This lesson should be used with Lesson 3 in order to demonstrate differences of opinion in an historical setting.

In the late 1880s and early 1890s the political power of the "Bourbon" Conservative Democrats was challenged for the first time since they had "redeemed" Alabama from Republican rule and Reconstruction. The Farmers' Alliance arose in the 1880s to demand state intervention on behalf of small farmers. Initially working within the Democratic Party, the reform movement by the 1890s became increasingly independent with some of its more radical members suggesting that small farmers ally with urban laborers and blacks (there was a Colored Alliance, too) to press their agenda for cooperative commerce and debt relief.

John T. Milner, a Birmingham-area engineer-turned-industrial developer, articulated the successful Conservative counterattack. He warned in an 1890 pamphlet "White Men of Alabama Stand Together" of the dangers of returning to Republican rule and the turmoil of Reconstruction should the white man desert the Democratic Party. The same arguments would be advanced eleven years later by proponents of the 1901 Constitution.

#### 2. Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this lesson, students should be able to:

- 1. dentify and discuss opposite historical positions.
- 2. Synthesize a letter of response using historical background.

## 3. Suggested Activities:

- 1. Provide copies of Document 1, the pamphlet, "White Men of Alabama Stand Together."
- 2. Ask the students to use the general suggestions for analyzing a written document while reading the excerpts from the pamphlet.



- 3. Ask the students the following questions:
  - a. What is Milner's reason for writing this pamphlet?
  - b. How do you think that writings like these helped to move white north Alabamians from their support of the Republican party?
  - c. After reading this, can you determine Milner's political party preference?
- 4. Allow the students to compare and contrast Milner's publication with the address To the Members of the Alabama Constitutional Convention found in Lesson 3.
- 5. Assign the following:

You are Booker T. Washington. You have just read Senator Milner's pamphlet. Write a letter to Sen. Milner explaining the need for equal suffrage.

#### Document:

John Milner, White Men of Alabama Stand Together, Pamphlet Collection - Subjects, LPR117, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Attached and on the web at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/lesson4/doc1.html



equal of the white man, and like them they will never desist until decay and ruin has overtaken both races in Alabama.

This is the simple truth of my second and self-evident proposition. In Barbadoes alone have the whites continued to hold power, and in Barbadoes alone does the negro, unaided by either Coolie and Chinese emigration, keep up the agriculture, and here alone have the white people maintained a decent and orderly civilization.

There has not been a moment of peace in Alabama, since the black Republican party was organized at Chicago in June, 1860, except perhaps, when the Democrats held the lower house from 1875 to 1888, and there never will be, as long as the Republicens control the Government of the United States. They will continue to utilize the negro as lubricant for their party machinery as long as there is any grease left in him, or until he becomes like a squeezed lemon, and has no paice left in him, and just so long will there be unrest among the white people in Alabama.

In 1860 it was the wrongs of the poor negro. In 1860 it is the rights of the poor negro.

The fiegro has the balance of power in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, New York, Connecticut, and perhaps now in Rhode Island. To save these States to the Republican party, any ordinary political movement would be proper, but when by such movement it is evident, or if not evident, probable, that material, social, and political ruin will be the result in Alabama, and others of the Southern States, this movement ceases to be political and becomes a crime which if we in our present condition, cannot resent or obviate, is marked down, by the Ruler of the Universe, against this great nation for future consideration. If it is to continue, whether I do right or wrong, I would like Hannibal swear every new born child in the South to eternal hatred to our political persecutors, the Republican party.

Had Daniel Webster not died our civil war would not have begun, as his grand eloquence in fighting Sumner, Seward and others of their party, on the question of abolition stayed the tide until he was laid away in death.

They labor side by side with white men, are schooled by the State precisely as white children are. In our criminal proceedings and courts we treat them as a race far better than they are treated



in the courts of the Northern States. If anyone will take the trouble to look upon and examine page 1696 of the second volume of the Compendium of the United States Census for 1880, he will find that in Alabama we had convicted and sentenced to our penitentiary then, only one nego to every 1,923, whilst from Massachuetts, the State from whence all the political ills for the South emanate, they convicted and sentenced to her penitentiary, one negro in every 384 negro citizens; in Pennsylvania, one negro to every 447; in Indiana, the home of the President of the United States, one negro in every 288. In other words Massachueits courts are four times harder on them than Alabama courts; Penn-ylvania, five times; and Indiana courts seven times meaner to the negro as a race than Alabama courts. What, then, is the reason for this attempted violation of all the laws of nature and humanity? Fanaticism, coupled with party purpose, alone can account for it. If let alone the whites - can, and will, control, manage, and steer the unevenly freighted ship of State of Alabama proudly and grandly down the stream of But if the sword of Brennus is to be cast into the scale, and the negro again should rule here, it would be better, as suggested by the great English historian, Froude, in reference to the English West Indies, if left in con rol of their negroes, that Alabama with her freighted cargo should sink beneath the waves and be forever lost.

WHITE MEN OF ALABAMA, STAND TOGETHER!

Document 1 - John Milner, White Men of Alabama Stand Together, Pamphlet Collection - Subjects, LPR117, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.



## Lesson 5: Voting After the Constitution of 1901

#### 1. Background information for teachers:

The Constitution of 1901 included a host of new voting requirements to restrict suffrage to "the intelligent and the virtuous voter." The new requirements were designed to take away the vote of African Americans without running afoul of the 15th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which prohibited denying the right to vote on the basis of race. Residency and literacy requirements along with poll tax and property qualifications were included, as was a provision that voters be engaged in a lawful business. Poor whites who might have been disqualified by these restrictions could be "grandfathered" in for life if they or their ancestors had served in the military or if they were of "good character" and "understood the duties of citizenship." The new Constitution effectively disfranchised nearly all black Alabamians and dramatically reduced the numbers of white voters as well.

#### 2. Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this lesson, students should be able to:

- 1. Define the terms "suffrage" and "poll tax."
- 2. Discuss the limitations of suffrage as written in the 1901 constitution.
- 3. Compare and contrast voting qualifications and rights from the Jim Crow era and those of the present.

#### 3. Suggested Activities/Analysis for Entire Lesson:

- 1. Make a copy of Document 1.
- 2. Ask the students to use the general suggestions for analyzing a written document.
- 3. Ask the students to guess why J. G. Crommelin, Jr. was given a certificate of registration for life.
- 4. Make a copy of the Synopsis of Voting Requirements.



- 5. After reading the voting requirements, ask the students which of the provisions might have been met by J. G. Crommelin, Jr.
- 6. Ask the students to list those people who could NOT vote under the provisions of the new constitution.
- 7. Make a copy of Document 2 and Document 3.
- 8. Allow the students to compare the numbers of white and black voters who had to pay the poll tax in each document.
- 9. Allow the students to compare and contrast the numbers of white and black voters from the Perry County, Radfordville precinct in 1892 (Document 2) and in 1902 (Document 3). What can be gathered from this data?
- 10. Using reference materials, ask the students to find out the qualifications for voting in the present time.
- 11. Ask the students to make a list of similarities and differences between voting rights of the present time and those of 1901.

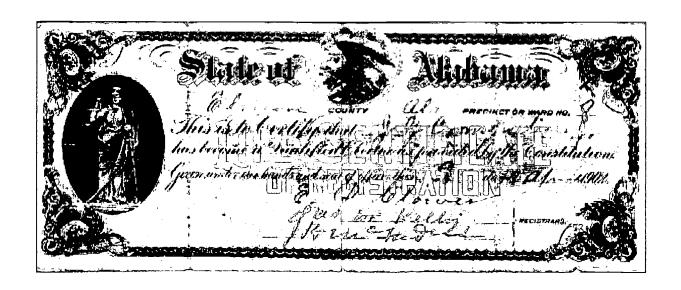
#### Documents:

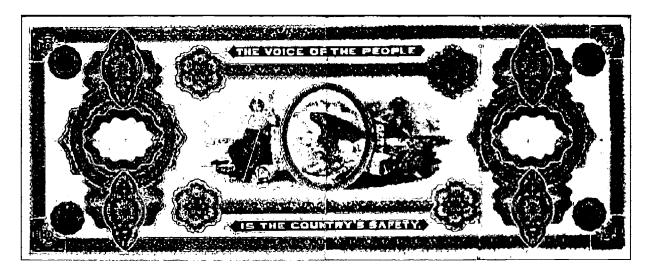
**Document 1:** "Life certificate of registration," Crommelin Family Papers, LPR62, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Attached and at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/lesson5/doc1.html

**Document 2**: "List of Registered Voters, Radfordville Precinct, Perry County, 1892," LG5494 folder 2, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Attached and on the web at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/lesson5/doc2.html

**Document 3:** "Poll List, Radfordville Precinct, Perry County, 1902," LG2313, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Attached and at http://www.archives.state.al.us/teacher/ccon/lesson5/doc3.html







Document 1: "Life certificate of registration," Crommelin Family Papers, LPR62, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.



# Synopsis of Voting Requirements from the Constitution of 1901:

#### The applicant must:

- 1. have resided in Alabama for two years, his county for one year and his ward for three months;
- 2. have paid a poll tax of \$1.50, retroactive to 1901 or to the year when voting age was reached on or before February 1 in the election year;
- 3. own real or personal property worth \$300 or more or forty acres of land on which the taxes had been paid; (The assets of the wife could be used for the voter, if necessary.)
- 4. be able to read and write any article in the constitution in English to the satisfaction of the registrars;
- 5. have been engaged in a lawful business for the previous year;
- 6. have been free of conviction of crime.

Additionally, until January of 1903, a man who met the age, residence and poll tax requirements could register to vote for life provided that he had been in the army or navy in previous wars. This provision was also extended to those who were descendants of sailors or soldiers. Also, the vote was extended to those men who exhibited good character and understood the duties of citizenship.

#### Source:

William Warren Rogers, Robert David Ward, Leah Rawls Atkins and Wayne Flynt, *Alabama: The History of a Deep South State* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1994), p. 347.



#### REGISTRATION OATH

# The State of Alabama,

Radford will.

PRECI

We, the undersigned, registered electors, each for himself, do soldnuly swear for allignit, that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama; that I am not excluded from registering or voting by any of the clauses in Section 3 of Article 8 of the Calabama, and that I am a qualified elector under the Constitution and laws of this State.

-	No.	Date	Names of Electors.	White or Colored.	Registrar's Attestation.	Binployers l
	1	Aug M	1B7 booky	w	Farmer	
	رج	OV	ME Alarvis	w	· Farmer	
•	3	L	A Paswana	w	To Men	
	4	t	Edward Swann	w	Farmer	
	5-		Simme Edwards	10	Former	
À	4	1	A b Hale	w	d'at me	
•	ارم	Ļ	MJ Edwards	er	Lamme	<i>y</i> .
	8		Ina H Beam	w	I armer	
		<i>'</i>	I Jackoron	w	I armer	-
			R. J. Jackson	in	Falmer.	
_	1		A Rynard	en	Tarmy	
10		V	A MM Soullough	w	Farmer	
1	1,		Rich Sollifield		Farmer.	
1	5-		6 S Makenson	w	Former	•
ن ا	6		Dunelan Emmeran	2	Harmer	•
	7	لم د د	I har Menley	e	Falmely,	
1	<b>₽</b>		Wil Dobyell	ام	Farmer	1

Document 2: "List of Registered Voters, Radfordville Precinct, Perry County, 1892," LG5494 folder 2, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama., page 1



_				
13	Jest of Take	20.00	Forming	
20	ve I Marie	IN	Farm	
21	Wh Hale	Lan	Tomas	,
23	If of Walters	w	Former	
23	V Jone Lea	e	Tarmer	
24	V Jondon Jones	2	Farmer.	
25	Milson Menualdo	2	Former	
26	Henry Gaines	ر ا	Talmen	•
27	of harly Rulledge	C	Former	,
28	Booker Stutledge	2	Farmer	
23	VIE abchoolar	w	De By proffesa	
30	Andrew Jackson	0	Horme	. <u>.</u>
31	& Laucio la so hiarra	C	Tonner.	
32	I'M Elana	10	farmen	94 NY
33	V Thomas Goves	w	Minol Jeach	· · · ·
34	13 Willnobiom	to	Farmer	·
35	Jon Profiles	2	Janush	
36	I A Tiller	w	Tarmer	
37	Not B Walter	w	Merchant	
	1 & M Watter see Tout Hereling	4	Menol for the well will conty (and they) of	
do ber	The contile that the abuse and foresting surrous in secretarial material forms.	o i io	entinet (or Warri) in said County (and Oily) of	a <del>an de alle end</del> Le se an Liver de la
dates	objectily that the abave and torgoing mains of registered voters, from N	- LU	inclusive, were duly regulate	
enbser	ibed before me the above and forestire cath, on the days and dates set one	osite to th	elr munes respectively.	arte, arranda strikturgi
	Wires my hand, this The 1 34 day of the green	1-		•
	MWattisse		Sadi Mo	1
<b>&gt;</b>		.*	- And W	C. Tile
l				)

Document 2: "List of Registered Voters, Radfordville Precinct, Perry County, 1892," LG5494 folder 2, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama, page 2.



	Precinct	Rad	e for	deville
NO.	NAME	Age	FREGINGT ON WAND	POST OFFICE
. /	Henry W. Iver,	31	/3	A firetto,
2	J. Q Kimarla.	50	11	"
3	Jul tewast	22	11	
Ų.	J. D. Kiley.	_21	11	,
J	J. W. Llawson	<u>~ グク</u>	" "	1
6	L. P. mc Curky.	30		Rudsjondo
7	H lo Bolling	28	- 11	Sphotto
8	H 93 quitte	21	,,	Rodforde
9_	93 A Storie	36	11	
10	& Osborn	33	^_	
;		ł		

Document 3: "Poll List, Radfordville Precinct, Perry County, 1902," LG2313, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.





U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI) National Library of Education (NLE) Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)



# REPRODUCTION RELEASE

(Blanket)

I. DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION	N (Class of Documents):	S0Ø35ØØ7
All Publications: Using Primary So	urces in the Classroom On	-line Lesson Plans
Series (Identify Series):		
Division/Department Publications (Spec	ify):	Publication Date:
Alabama Department of Archi	ves and History	
II. REPRODUCTION RELEASE:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
monthly abstract journal of the ERIC system. Res	sources in Education (RIE), are usually ma C Document Reproduction Service (EDRS	to the educational community, documents announced in the ade available to users in microfiche, reproduced paper copy, s). Credit is given to the source of each document, and, if
If permission is granted to reproduce and disbottom of the page.	sseminate the identified documents, pleas	e CHECK ONE of the following three options and sign at the
The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 1 documents	The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 2A documents	The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 2B documents
PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY	PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AN DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE, AND IN ELECTRONIC MI FOR ERIC COLLECTION SUBSCRIBERS HAS BEEN GRANTED BY	PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN
		- Sample
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)	TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)	TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
1	2A	2B
Level 1  †	Level 2A ↑	Level 2B †
Check here for Level 1 release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche or other ERIC archival media (e.g., electronic) and paper copy.	Check here for Level 2A release, permittir reproduction and dissemination in microfiche ( electronic media for ERIC archival collection subscribers only	and in reproduction and dissemination in microfiche only
Documen If permission to repr	ts will be processed as indicated provided reproduct oduce is granted, but no box is checked, documents	ion quality permits. will be processed at Level 1.
as indicated above. Reproduction from	n the ERIC microtiche or electronic media o copyright holder. Exception is made for no	permission to reproduce and disseminate these documents by persons other than ERIC employees and its system on-profit reproduction by libraries and other service agencies
Sign Signature: here, → Aut. 2	- I_	ted Name/Position/Title:
please Organization/Address:	Tati	blie Pendieton   Assistant Oirentor phone: FAX:
Alabama Dept. of Arc 624 Washington Avenu		14-241-43-3 334-340-3433 all Address: Date:

Montgomery, AL 36130-0100

#### III. DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY INFORMATION (FROM NON-ERIC SOURCE):

If permission to reproduce is not granted to ERIC, or, if you wish ERIC to cite the availability of the document from another source, please provide the following information regarding the availability of the document. (ERIC will not announce a document unless it is publicly available, and a dependable source can be specified. Contributors should also be aware that ERIC selection criteria are significantly more stringent for documents that cannot be made available through EDRS.)

Publisher/Distrib	utor:	•				
 \ddress:						
			•			
rice:						
nce:						
		<del></del> .				
	•					•
.REFERR	AL OF ERIC T	O COPYRIGI	HT/REPROD	OUCTION RIC	SHTS HOLD	ER:
	this reproduction relea	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
	this reproduction relea	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
dress:	this reproduction relea	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
dress:	this reproduction relea	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
dress: Name:	· 	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
dress: Name:	· 	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
dress: Name:	· 	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
dress: Name:	· 	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
he right to grant dress: Name: Address:	· 	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
dress: Name:	· 	ase is held by some	one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and
Vame: Address:	· 		one other than the	e addressee, please	e provide the appro	opriate name and

Send this form to the following ERIC Clearinghouse:

ERIC/CHESS 2805 E. Tenth Street, #120 Bioomington, IN 47408

However, if solicited by the ERIC Facility, or if making an unsolicited contribution to ERIC, return this form (and the document being contributed) to:

ERIC Processing and Reference Facility 4483-A Forbes Boulevard Lanham, Maryland 20706

> Telephone: 301-552-4200 Toll Free: 800-799-3742 FAX: 301-552-4700 e-mail: ericfac@inet.ed.go

e-mail: ericfac@inet.ed.gov WWW: http://ericfacility.org

